Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1-37. (Cancelled).

38. (New) An endoscope comprising:
    a) a high-power solid state light-emitting device having a light emitting region without having an encasement on the light emitting region, and
    b) a fiber optic light guide comprising
    a light-receiving end and a light-transmitting end wherein the light receiving end is placed directly against the light emitting region of the light-emitting device, said light-receiving end being configured to match the size and shape of the light-emitting surface of the light-emitting device.

39. (New) The endoscope of claim 38, wherein the light-emitting surface of the light-emitting device is coated with a wavelength conversion phosphor.

40. (New) The endoscope of claim 38, wherein the light emitting surface of the light-emitting device is about 1 mm square.

41. (New) The endoscope of claim 38, wherein the high-power solid state light-emitting device draws up to 5W of power.

42. (New) The endoscope of claim 38, wherein the fiber optic light guide comprises a bundle of optic fibers.

43. (New) The endoscope of claim 42, wherein the fibers have diameters of about 30-50 micrometers.

44. (New) The endoscope of claim 38, further comprising a ferrule that surrounds the fiber optic light guide.

45. (New) The endoscope of claim 44, wherein the ferrule is located close to but not at the light receiving end of the fiber optic light guide.

46. (New) The endoscope of claim 38, wherein the light-emitting surface of the light-emitting device is substantially flat.

47. (New) The endoscope of claim 46, wherein the light receiving end of the fiber optic light guide is flat.

48. (New) The endoscope of claim 38, wherein the fiber optic light guide comprises a single glass or plastic fiber.

49. (New) The endoscope of claim 38, further comprising a light-emitting device battery power source.

50. (New) An illumination device comprising:

a) a high-power solid state light-emitting device having a light emitting region without having an encasement on the light emitting region, and

b) a fiber optic light guide comprising
a light-receiving end and a light-transmitting end wherein the light receiving end is placed directly against the light emitting region of the light-emitting device, said light-receiving end being configured to match the size and shape of the light-emitting surface of the light-emitting device.

51. (New) The illumination device of claim 50 wherein the high power light-emitting device is coated with a wavelength conversion phosphor.

52. (New) The illumination device of claim 50, wherein the light emitting surface of the light-emitting device is about 1 mm square.

53. (New) The illumination device of claim 50, wherein the high-power solid state light-emitting device draws up to 5W of power.

54. (New) The illumination device of claim 50, wherein the fiber optic light guide comprises a bundle of optic fibers.

55. (New) The illumination device of claim 54, wherein the fibers have diameters of about 30-50 micrometers.

56. (New) The illumination device of claim 50, further comprising a ferrule that surrounds the fiber optic light guide.

57. (New) The illumination device of claim 56, wherein the ferrule is located close to but not at the light receiving end of the fiber optic light guide.

58. (New) The illumination device of claim 50, wherein the light-emitting surface of the light-emitting device is substantially flat.

59. (New) The illumination device of claim 58, wherein the light receiving end of the fiber optic light guide is substantially flat.

60. (New) The illumination device of claim 50, wherein the fiber optic light guide comprises a single glass or plastic fiber.

61. (New) The illumination device of claim 50, further comprising a light-emitting device battery power source.